

**State Medevac Committee Meeting  
The Place at Innsbrook  
Glen Allen, Virginia  
August 7, 2008  
10:00 a.m.**

<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>OEMS Staff:</b>	<b>Guests:</b>
<b>Bruce Edwards, Chairman</b>	<b>Peter Martin</b>	Paul Sharpe	<b>Kim Allan</b>
<b>Chris Perkins</b>	<b>Mark Smith</b>	Tim Perkins	<b>Greg Brittingham</b>
<b>Chris Cannon</b>	<b>Allan Belcher</b>	Wanda Street	
<b>Erik Rohde</b>	<b>Garrett Wymer</b>	Beth Singer	
<b>Don Childs</b>	<b>Eddie Ferguson</b>	Gary Brown	
<b>Paul Davenport</b>	<b>Jethro Piland</b>	Scott Winston	
<b>David Poulsen</b>			
<b>Susan Ward</b>			
<b>Chris Stevenson</b>			
<b>Bob Possumato</b>			
<b>Shawn Rivard</b>			
<b>Gregory Jones</b>			
<b>Terry Austin</b>			
<b>Scott Kunkel</b>			
<b>Brian Solada</b>			
<b>Brett Dodd</b>			
<b>Harinder Dhindsa</b>			

<b>Topic/Subject</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person</b>
<b>Call to order:</b>	Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by the Chair, Bruce Edwards.	
<b>Introductions:</b>	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
<b>Approval of the April 24, 2008 Minutes:</b>	Mr. Edwards asked if there were any changes, corrections, etc. to the minutes. There were none.	<b>The minutes were approved as submitted.</b>
<b>Chair Report – Bruce Edwards:</b>	Mr. Edwards stated that there was a meeting a few weeks ago with VHHA representatives and the Commissioner of Health. The topic of discussion was where the committee was headed. There were concerns about systems being excluded or voting on something that may impact someone adversely. Bruce's vision for the committee is to be balanced and more strategic in nature. The committee had grown too large and needed to be structured to align with other Advisory Board Committees. Everyone is still invited to attend the committee meetings and serve on the best practices sub-committee. Hypothetically, a need may arise in the future to have a Part 135 or a Part 91 sub-committee. The committee does not want to exclude anyone from participating. Consensus building will be the tool used in this (not voting). OEMS has planned a retreat and Dr. Karen Remley, the Commissioner of Health, plans to attend. The retreat will be held on Friday, October 3, 2008 at the Doubletree Hotel, in Charlottesville with Greg Brittingham of VCU as facilitator. Greg has worked with various state	



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	<p>agencies in facilitating many programs. Greg's role is to be neutral on content and biased on the process that is used. The process will be inclusive, participatory, and will be meant to find common areas and build consensus; to find the perfect system that OEMS would like to see in place within 3 to 5 years; and decide how we can get there.</p> <p>Paul Davenport feels that OEMS should be commended for bringing in an unbiased person.</p> <p>Bruce reported that the commissioner asked if there was any thought given to adding members to the committee. The commissioner also stated that the Medevac systems could be organized by regional council service areas with a representative from each region. This may be an item of discussion for the retreat.</p> <p>Bruce welcomed and introduced Dr. George Lindbeck, OMD who just entered the room.</p>	
<b>OEMS Report – Tim Perkins:</b>	<p>Tim thanked everyone for participating on the conference call on July 3. The minutes of the conference call are being transcribed and will be sent out via email.</p> <p>He is still trying to take time to visit each of the agencies. Last month, he spent some time at Carilion with Paul Davenport.</p> <p>If anyone is not receiving emails from Tim, please let him know so that he can add you to his distribution list.</p> <p>He and Paul Sharpe have received a few emails regarding flight bills. It was advised and agreed upon to forward any emails that are received to the appropriate agency for them to handle.</p> <p>After the last meeting, Tim and Paul Sharpe reviewed the regulations and began to make changes as Jennie Collins had suggested; the topic of sirens came into question. Sirens are a permanent fixture on emergency vehicles and public safety vehicles. The current regulations don't say anything about sirens. It was recommended that this is optional. Bruce will inform Michael Berg of Regulation and Compliance of this recommendation.</p> <p>Tim stated that later this afternoon, when he meets with the regional council directors, he will be talking with them about participation on their regional PI and regional TPI committees. He will remind them that air medical services in their regions should have a seat on their PI and TPI committees. Air medical systems are encouraged to take an active role.</p>	<p><b>Bruce will give Michael Berg the recommendation about the siren regulation.</b></p>
<b>Virginia "WeatherShare" Program Development Update – Paul Davenport:</b>	<p>Paul reported that the committee is making good strides with the program. It has been a year since the program was first discussed. Last year, Jana Williams the Program Director of AirLife in Denver, Colorado came to our Medevac meeting and shared the Colorado Weather SAFE Alert presentation with us. At this time, a draft of the WeatherShare program is close to being completed. The VHHA (Steve Ennis) has agreed to add some items on their WEB EOC site that will allow agencies to not only be present and log into the WeatherShare system, but will also allow everyone to be aware of the turndown</p>	



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	<p>due to weather conditions. It will allow agencies to be notified if a major incident were to occur. Our agencies would report how many aircrafts are available, how many patients they could fly, if they have specialty care equipment, etc. and be able to post other comments. Some of the limitations of why it has taken a year are that funding needs to be obtained and WEB EOC has gone through a complete revision. Everyone is getting oriented to the new design of the WEB EOC. Carilion Clinic has been awarded a grant to study WeatherShare. Paul is hopeful that within the next two months a draft template will be available for a functionality review by the best practices committee.</p> <p>Dave Poulsen asked Paul if he had any idea when this will be ready for actual usage. Paul stated that the system should be ready in about 3 months.</p> <p>Dave also informed the committee that <a href="http://www.weatherturndown.com">www.weatherturndown.com</a> is a tool that already exists for air medical systems to use. Hazards and crane information are also posted on the site. He stated that systems could start using this immediately until the WeatherShare project is complete. Chris Cannon agreed that this is a great tool to use in the meantime. This information will be discussed in the sub-committee. They will decide if the weather turndown website is a useful tool.</p>	<p><b>The best practices sub-committee will discuss the weather turndown website tool.</b></p>
<b>Best Practices – Chris Cannon:</b>	<p>Per Chris Cannon, the best practices committee has been using the deliverables list created by Paul Sharpe in early 2007. Is this list still current? Where do we go now? Chris wants clear direction on where the committee is going. Communications and WeatherShare are the most important items of focus, everything else can be put on hold per Bruce.</p> <p>The Risk Management and Air Medical Resource Management (AMRM) best practices were accepted by the advisory board at the last committee meeting.</p>	
<b>Safety Operations Presentation – Susan Smith, Carilion LifeGuard:</b>	<p>Susan was not able to attend this meeting. Her presentation will be viewed at the next meeting.</p>	
<b>Agency Reports/Program Announcements:</b>	<p><b>Paul Davenport, Carilion Clinic LifeGuard</b> – Carilion is restructuring and has gone through some reorganization. They will be hiring a manager to report to Susan. The manager will be responsible for flight operations. Susan apologizes for not being here today. HealthNet out of West Virginia has a licensed aircraft in Bluefield, Virginia. There is another air program that is very interested in the Bluefield area so there may be an agency coming into that area. An official letter will be sent to OEMS from HealthNet.</p> <p><b>Terry Austin, VSP</b> – As some of you may know, a state police helicopter was stuck on top of a Roanoke hospital. It had transmission failure. The National Guard helicopter air lifted the helicopter off of the helipad down to the ground pad. The cooperation from Carilion was outstanding. They went above and beyond the call of duty to help us. Lt. Possumato and I went out to help and we appreciate everything that was done to assist us.</p> <p><b>Dave Poulsen, LifeEvac</b> – VCU is doing a total review of their helipad policy due to the recent accidents. A small committee is being formed and Chris Stevenson is coordinating it. The communications frequency of 23.025 has been sent to everyone recently. Dave hasn't seen the new</p>	



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	manual, but understands that there is a change. The FAA intends for everyone to change the frequency; however, it is not regulatory by any means but it shows the direction in which they are going. He believes that it is working well in different parts of the state.	
<b>New Business:</b>	None.	
<b>Old Business:</b>	Bruce mentioned that after the meeting with the commissioner, Katie Webb of VHHA offered her assistance to the committee.	
<b>Public Comment:</b>	None.	
<b>Adjournment:</b>	Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:35 a.m.	<p><b>The Retreat is Friday, October 3 at the Doubletree Hotel in Charlottesville.</b></p> <p><b>The next meeting is Wednesday, November 12 in Norfolk at the OEMS Symposium at 10 a.m.</b></p>